

(323) 881-2401

October 7, 2002

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

2002 FIREWORKS REPORT

Enclosed is a copy of the 2002 *Fireworks Report*. Our Department, in cooperation with the Office of the State Fire Marshal and fire agencies throughout Southern California, participated in a Fireworks Safety and Educational Program. The information contained in this report is based on data collected from June 17 through July 16, 2002.

As in the past, we again conducted an intensive fireworks public information campaign and encouraged public attendance at fireworks displays. We worked closely with law enforcement agencies, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and other fire departments in Southern California in the confiscation of illegal fireworks. This year, the fire loss was \$314,210 with seven reported fireworks related injuries. This amount was lower than in 2001, in which the fire loss was \$466,885 with eight reported fireworks related injuries.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (323) 881-2401 or Battalion Chief Bruce Dean, Fire Prevention Division, at (323) 890-4135.

PMF:cm

Enclosures

c: David E. Janssen  
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## INTRODUCTION

The 2002 Fireworks Damage Report has been completed by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, which is based on all available incident data involving fireworks collected over a one-month period from June 17, 2002 through July 16, 2002.

The purpose of this report is to monitor and document the impact of fireworks on the communities in fifty-seven cities and all unincorporated areas in the County of Los Angeles, otherwise known as the Consolidated Fire Protection District.

The information in this report includes the following:

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A five-year comparison of data is used in this report in order to identify trends reflecting either increases or decreases in the number of injuries and in fire loss.

A new category has been added this year to include information on the number of fireworks stand permits that were issued in those cities permitting the sale of “safe and sane” fireworks.

It should also be noted that the Arson Investigation Unit assisted other fire department and law enforcement agencies, including Los Angeles, El Monte, Glendale, Torrance, Vernon, Carson, Compton, Bellflower, Long Beach, Montebello and Downey in the confiscation of over 25,000 pounds of illegal fireworks during this reporting period.

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## SUMMARY OF FIRE LOSS AND INJURIES

### Number of Fires by Occupancy/Property Type

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Structure	10	4	14
Vegetation	15	11	26
Misc. Property	21	3	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>64</b>

### Type of Fireworks Involved

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Illegal	25	11	36
Unclassified	14	6	20
Safe and Sane	12	2	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>70</b>

### Structure and Contents Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Structure	\$217,350	\$76,700	\$294,050
Misc. Property	\$10,560	\$9,600	\$20,160
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$227,910</b>	<b>\$86,300</b>	<b>\$314,210</b>

### Number of Acres of Brush/Grass Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Brush/Grass	9.78 Acres	6.25 Acres	16.03 Acres

### Combustible Roof Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Number	4	1	4
Fire Loss	\$10,100	\$5,000	\$10,100

### Injuries

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Number of Injuries	6	1	7

**INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS, INJURIES AND FIREWORKS STANDS  
BY CITY**

City	Type of Incident**	Fire Loss	Number of Injuries	Type of Fireworks***	Number of Fireworks Stands
Agoura Hills	0	0	0	N/A	0
Artesia*	0	0	0	N/A	9
Azusa*	VEG	0	0	UNC/SAS	27
Baldwin Park*	VEG/MISC	\$1,000	0	ILL/UNC	21
Bell*	0	0	0	N/A	8
Bellflower*	STR/MISC	\$3,050	0	ILL/UNC	18
Bell Gardens*	0	0	0	N/A	16
Bradbury	0	0	0	N/A	0
Calabasas	0	0	2	SAS	0
Carson*	VEG/MISC	\$250	0	ILL/UNC/SAS	30
Cerritos	STR	\$2,500	0	ILL	0
Claremont	VEG	0	0	ILL	0
Commerce*	0	0	0	N/A	10
Covina	STR	\$3,500	0	ILL	0
Cudahy*	STR	\$35,000	0	ILL	2
Diamond Bar	0	0	0	N/A	0
Duarte*	0	0	0	N/A	4
El Monte*	VEG/MISC	\$2,000	1	ILL	2
Gardena*	0	0	0	N/A	7
Glendora	0	0	0	N/A	0
Hawaiian Gardens*	MISC	\$2,100	0	ILL	11
			1		7
Hawthorne*	STR	\$120,000		ILL	
Hidden Hills	0	0	0	N/A	0
Huntington Park*	0	0	0	N/A	18
Industry*	0	0	0	N/A	18

Inglewood	STR/MISC	\$2,200	1	ILL/UNC	36
Irwindale*	0	0	0	N/A	5
La Canada Flintridge	0	0	0	N/A	0
La Mirada*	MISC	0	0	ILL	15
La Puente*	0	0	0	N/A	6

\* Cities permitting the sale of Safe and Sane fireworks

\*\* Type of Incidents:

STR = Structure; VEG = Vegetation; MISC = Miscellaneous Property

\*\*\* Type of Fireworks:

ILL = Illegal; UNC = Unclassified; SAS = Safe and Sane

**INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS, INJURIES AND FIREWORKS STANDS  
BY CITY  
(Continued)**

City	Type of Incident**	Fire Loss	Number of Injuries	Type of Fireworks***	Number of Fireworks Stands
Lakewood*	STR/MISC	\$54,000	0	UNC/SAS	35
Lancaster	VEG	0	0	ILL	0
Lawndale*	0	0	0	N/A	9
Lomita	0	0	0	N/A	0
Lynwood	MISC	0	0	SAS	0
Malibu	0	0	0	N/A	0
Maywood*	0	0	0	N/A	12
Norwalk*	0	0	0	N/A	31
Palmdale*	VEG/MISC	\$10	1	ILL/UNC/SAS	45
Palos Verdes Estates	0	0	0	N/A	0
Paramount*	STR/VEG	\$1,100	0	ILL	14
Pico Rivera*	VEG/MISC	\$200	0	UNC/SAS	15
Pomona	VEG/MISC	\$100	0	ILL/UNC	0
Rancho Palos Verdes	0	0	0	N/A	0
Rolling Hills	0	0	0	N/A	0
Rolling Hills Estates	0	0	0	N/A	0
Rosemead*	STR/MISC	\$2,500	0	ILL/UNC	19
San Dimas	0	0	0	N/A	0
Santa Clarita	MISC	0	0	SAS	0
Signal Hill	0	0	0	N/A	0
South El Monte*	0	0	0	N/A	6

South Gate*	MISC	\$500	0	ILL/SAS	45
Temple City*	0	0	0	N/A	13
Walnut	0	0	0	N/A	0
West Hollywood	0	0	0	N/A	0
Westlake Village	0	0	0	N/A	0
Whittier	MISC	0	0	UNC	0
<b>TOTAL</b> <b>Pages 3 and 4</b>		<b>\$230,010</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>514</b>

\* Cities permitting the sale of "Safe and Sane" fireworks

\*\* Types of Incidents:

STR = Structure VEG = Vegetation MISC = Miscellaneous Property

\*\*\*Types of fireworks:

ILL = Illegal

UNC = Unclassified SAS = Safe and Sane

**FIRE INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS AND INJURIES BY  
UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

Unincorporated Areas	Type of Incident*	Fire Loss	Number of Injuries	Type of Fireworks**
<u>Altadena</u>	0	0	0	N/A
Antelope Valley	0	0	0	N/A
Arcadia – County	0	0	0	N/A
Athens	0	0	0	N/A
Azusa – County	0	0	0	N/A
Baldwin Hills	0	0	0	N/A
Carson - County	VEG	0	0	ILL/SAS
Catalina	0	0	0	N/A
Compton – County	0	0	0	N/A
Covina – County	0	0	0	N/A
East Los Angeles	VEG	0	0	ILL
Florence – County	STR	\$200	1	ILL/UNC
Hacienda Heights	0	0	0	N/A
Hawthorne– County	0	0	0	N/A
Industry – County	MISC/STR	\$13,000	0	ILL
La Crescenta	0	0	0	N/A
La Puente – County	MISC	0	0	ILL
Ladera Heights	0	0	0	N/A
Lake Los Angeles	0	0	0	N/A
Lancaster –	STR	31,500	0	UNC

County				
Lennox	0	0	0	N/A
Little Rock– County	0	0	0	N/A
Llano – County	0	0	0	N/A
Malibu – County	VEG	0	0	ILL
Marina Del Rey	0	0	0	N/A
Pasadena – County	0	0	0	N/A
Palmdale – County	VEG	0	0	ILL/UNC
Quartz Hill	0	0	0	N/A
Rowland Heights	0	0	0	N/A
South Central L. A.	STR	\$40,000	0	UNC
San Gabriel- County	0	0	0	N/A
Valencia	0	0	0	N/A
Universal City	0	0	0	N/A
Valinda	0	0	0	N/A
Val Verde	MISC	\$1,600	0	ILL
View Park	0	0	0	N/A
Walnut Park	0	0	0	N/A
Whittier – County	VEG	0	0	UNC/ILL
Willowbrook– County	0	0	0	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$86,300</b>	<b>1</b>	

**\* Type of Incident:**

STR = Structure    VEG = Vegetation    MISC = Miscellaneous

**Property****\*\*Type of Fireworks:**

ILL = Illegal

UNC = Unclassified

SAS = Safe and Sane

NOTE: The sale of all fireworks is prohibited in all unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles.

### FIREWORKS ACTIVITY BY BATTALION

Battalion	Fire Incidents	Fire Loss Structure	Fire Loss Misc	Brush/Grass Acres Lost	Injuries (Civilian)	Type of Fireworks*
01	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
02	1	0	0	.12	0	ILL

03	4	0	\$200	1.22	0	ILL/UNC/SAS
04	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
05	1	0	0	1.00	2	ILL/SAS
06	2	0	\$1,600	0	0	ILL/SAS
07	5	0	\$250	.33	0	ILL/UNC/SAS
08	5	0	0	.92	0	ILL/UNC/SAS
09	9	\$56,650	\$4,000	1.00	0	ILL/UNC/SAS
10	7	\$2,000	\$2,500	3.11	1	ILL/UNC
11	3	\$31,500	0	1.11	0	ILL/UNC
12	2	\$5,000	\$8,000	0	0	ILL
13	5	\$35,200	\$500	0	1	ILL/UNC/SAS
14	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
15	2	0	\$100	2.00	0	UNC
16	6	\$3,500	\$1,000	2.11	0	ILL/UNC/SAS
17	5	0	\$10	2.11	1	ILL/UNC/SAS
18	1	\$120,000	0	0	1	ILL/SAS
19	2	0	0	1.00	0	ILL
20	4	\$40,200	\$2,000	0	1	ILL/UNC
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>61</b>	<b>\$294,050</b>	<b>\$20,160</b>	<b>16.03</b>	<b>7</b>	

\* Type of fireworks

ILL = Illegal

UNC = Unclassified

**SAS = Safe and Sane**

#### SUMMARY OF LOSS AND INJURY BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

<b>1<sup>st</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	19	10	29



<b>1<sup>st</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
Fire Loss	\$41,300	\$13,200	\$54,500
Injury	1	1	2

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	8	3	11
Fire Loss	\$122,450	\$40,000	\$162,450
Injury	2	0	2

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	0	1	1
Fire Loss	0	0	0
Injury	2	0	2

<b>4<sup>th</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	11	0	11
Fire Loss	\$60,650	0	\$60,650
Injury	0	0	0

<b>5<sup>th</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	8	4	12
Fire Loss	\$3,510	\$33,100	\$36,610
Injury	1	0	1

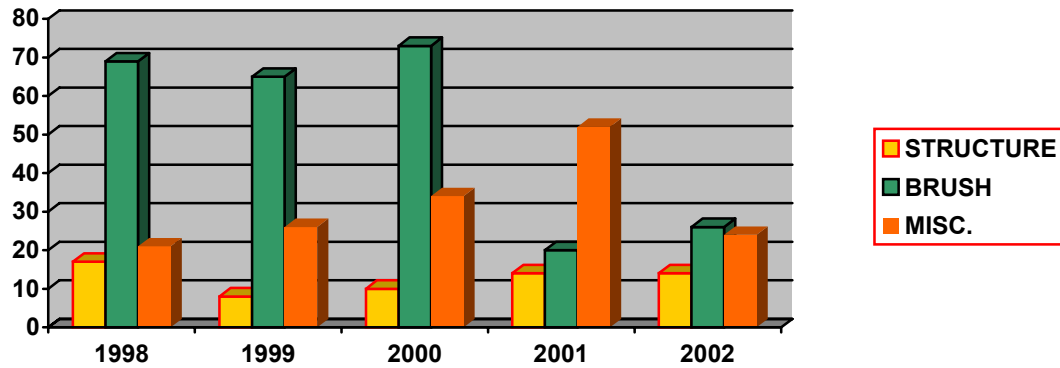
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### FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

#### NUMBER OF FIRES AND TYPE

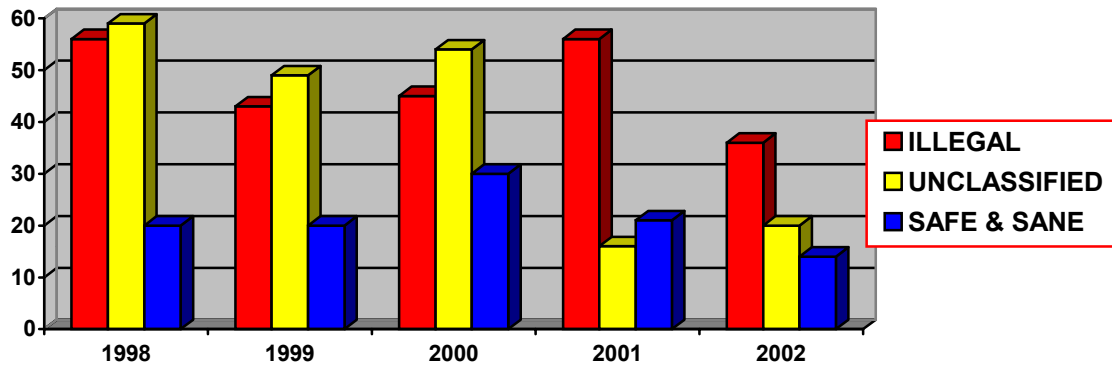
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<b>Year</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Structure</b>	17	8	10	14	14
<b>Brush</b>	69	65	73	20	26
<b>Misc. Prop.</b>	21	26	34	52	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>64</b>



### TYPES OF FIREWORKS INVOLVED

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Illegal	56	43	45	56	36
Unclassified	59	49	54	16	20
Safe & Sane	20	20	30	21	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>70</b>



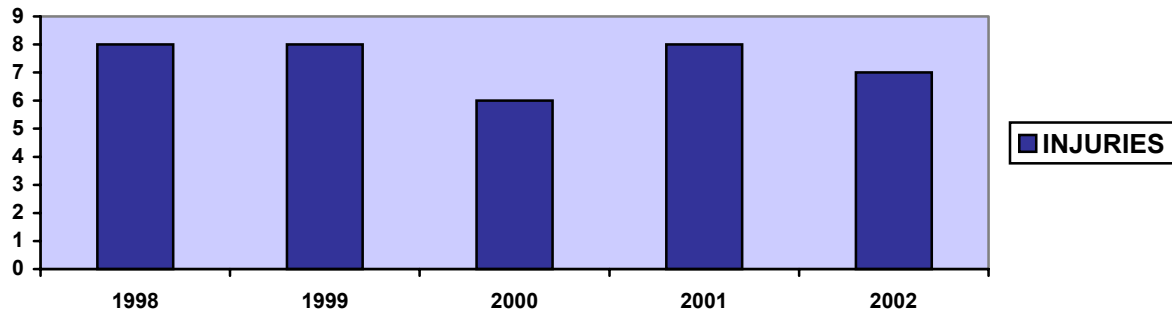
### FIVE YEAR COMPARISON (Continued)

#### *Acres of Brush or Grass Destroyed*

<b>Year</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Acres</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>22.17</b>	<b>16.03</b>

#### Injuries Caused by Fireworks

<b>Year</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>



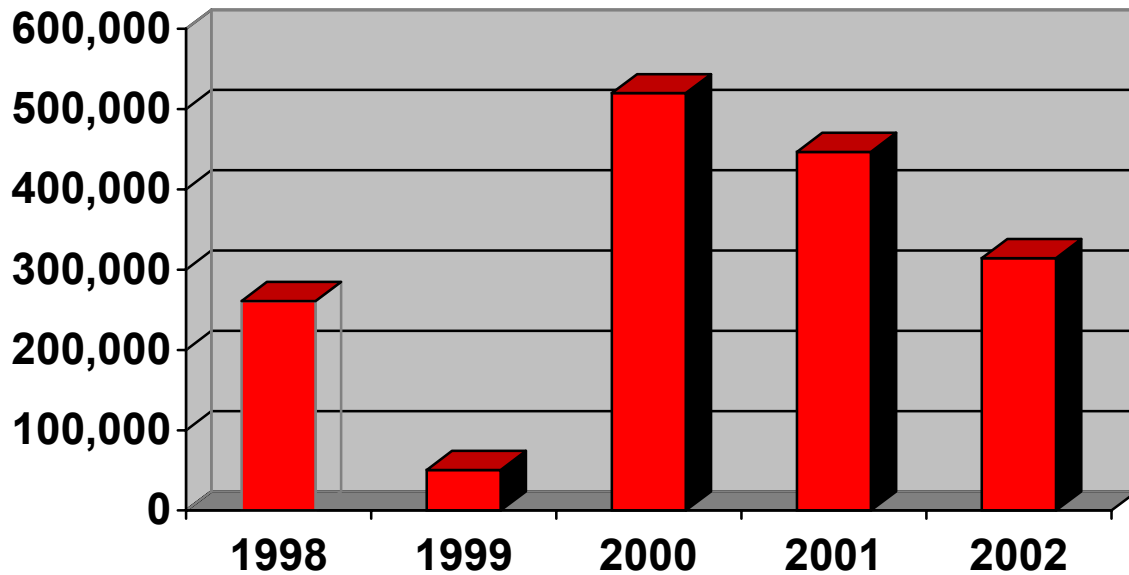
### FIVE YEAR FIRE LOSS STUDY STRUCTURE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY

#### *CITIES AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS*

**1998– 2002**

<b>Year</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Fire Loss</b>	<b>\$260,885</b>	<b>\$50,545</b>	<b>\$519,869</b>	<b>\$446,885</b>	<b>\$314,210</b>

### Structure and Miscellaneous Property



#### FIVE YEAR COMPARISON STUDY COMBUSTIBLE ROOF FIRE LOSS

*CITIES AND INCORPORATED AREAS*  
**1998 - 2002**

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Fire Loss	\$235,050	\$500	\$500	\$180,500	\$15,100

### Combustible Roof

